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ANN BAVENDER ANNE GOODWIN CRUMP VINCENT J. CURTIS. JR. PAUL J FELDMAN FRANK B. JAZZO EUGENE M. LAWSON, JR MITCHELL LAZABUS SUSAN A. MARSHALL\* HARRY C. MARTIN RAYMOND J. QUIANZON LEONARD R. RAISH JAMES P. RILEY ALISON J. SHAPIRO KATHLEEN VICTORY JENNIFER DINE WAGNER LILIANA E. WARD HOWARD M. WEISS

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AUG 2 9 2001

PEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(703)812-0478 shapiro@fnh-telcomlaw.com

August 29, 2001

BY HAND

Magalic Roman Salas, Esquire Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Room TW-B204 Washington, DC 20554

Re:

Petition for Rulemaking

Commonwealth Broadcasting, LLC

Sinclair Telecable, Inc. d/b/a Sinclair Communications

Dear Ms. Salas:

Enclosed herewith, on behalf of Commonwealth Broadcasting, LLC, and Sinclair Telecable, Inc. d/b/a Sinclair Communications, are an original and four copies of their Petition for Rulemaking, requesting the Commission to amend the FM Table of Allotments to relocate channel 291B from Exmore, Virginia, to Belle Haven, Virginia, and to relocate Channel 241B from Cape Charles, Virginia, to Exmore, Virginia, as a replacement service.

Should there be any questions regarding this matter, kindly communicate directly with the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

FLETSHER, HEALD & HILDRETH, P.L.C.

Alison J. Shapiro

Counsel for

Commonwealth Broadcasting, LLC

Sinclair Telecable, Inc.

d/b/a Sinclair Communications

Enclosure

cc: Mr. John A. Karousos, FCC (w/encl.)

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01-247

### Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

AUG 2 9 2001

PETERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

	· ·	OFFICE OF THE SECURITY
In the Matter of )	)	<b>C</b> 1105 5
Amendment of Section 73.202(b)	)	
Table of Allotments,	) MM Docket No.	
FM Broadcast Stations.	) RM No	
(Belle Haven, Virginia)	)	
(Cape Charles, Virginia)	)	
(Exmore, Virginia)	)	

To: Chief, Allocations Branch

#### PETITION FOR RULEMAKING

Commonwealth Broadcasting, LLC ("Commonwealth") and Sinclair Telecable, Inc. d/b/a Sinclair Communications ("Sinclair") (hereinafter referred to as "Petitioners"), by counsel, and pursuant to Section 1.401 of the Commission's rules, hereby respectfully request that the Commission institute a rulemaking proceeding for the purpose of amending the FM Table of Allotments to relocate Channel 291A from Exmore, Virginia to Belle Haven, Virginia, as that community's first local aural transmission service, and to relocate Channel 241B from Cape Charles, Virginia to Exmore, Virginia, as a replacement service. Thus, Petitioners propose to amend Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's rules as follows:

#### Channel No.

<u>City</u>	<b>Present</b>	Proposed
Exmore, Virginia	291A <sup>1</sup>	241B

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Currently, there is a pending one-step application to upgrade WEXM to channel 291B at Exmore, Virginia (File No. BMPH-2010502AAR). Hereafter, channel 291 will be referred to as a Class B station. However, all of the technical statements made herein apply to both a Class

Belle Haven, Virginia ----- 291A

Cape Charles, Virginia 241B None<sup>2</sup>

In support of this request, the following is stated:

The town of Belle Haven, Virginia, is an incorporated town which had a 2000 U.S. Census population of 521.<sup>3</sup> Belle Haven, located in Accomack County, is nestled between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay and encompasses approximately 1.52 square miles of land (972 acres). The town of Belle Haven has a Mayor-Town Council form of government, volunteer fire department, post office, zip code, numerous businesses, bed and breakfasts, and a church.

The proposed rulemaking would relocate existing WEXM(FM), currently licensed to Commonwealth on channel 291B, from Exmore, Virginia, to Belle Haven, Virginia, and would relocate existing WROX-FM, currently licensed to Sinclair on channel 241B, from Cape Charles, Virginia, to Exmore, Virginia, as a replacement service. As demonstrated in the attached Engineering Statement, the reference coordinates for the proposed channels at Belle Haven and Exmore meet the minimum distance separation requirements with respect to all known licenses, construction permits, pending applications, and pending rulemaking proceedings. The Belle

A and Class B facility. In addition, effective July 2, 2001, Channel 298B1, which was allotted to Exmore, Virginia, was reallotted to Fruitland, Maryland. See In the Matter of Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Exmore and Cheriton, Virginia, and Fruitland, Maryland), MM Docket No. 99-347, DA 01-1242 (Released May 18, 2001).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Noncommercial FM station WAZP, Channel 214B1, will remain licensed to Cape Charles, Virginia, and places a 70 dBu contour over the community.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: http://www.census.gov/population/estimates/metrocity/placebyco/SC99T8\_VA.txt.

Haven and Exmore allotment reference sites comply with the minimum spacing requirements contained in Section 73.207 of the Commission's rules.

As stated above, the addition of Channel 291B will provide Belle Haven with its first local aural transmission service. Currently, there are no other commercial or noncommercial stations licensed to Belle Haven. Thus, the addition of this allotment at Belle Haven will promote the objectives of Section 307(b) of the Communications Act by seeking to achieve a fair, efficient and equitable distribution of broadcast stations among the various states and communities. 47 U.S.C. § 307(b). Furthermore, since WAZP(FM), a non-commercial FM station operating on channel 214B1, is already licensed to Cape Charles, Virginia, moving WROX-FM from Cape Charles to Exmore would still leave Cape Charles with transmission service.

The FM Table of Allotments was created to allow the Commission to meet its obligation under Section 307(b) and the allotment priorities developed in *Revision of FM Assignment Policies and Procedures*, 90 FCC 2d 88, 91 (1982). These were intended to promote the statutory goals underlying Section 307(b). The main objective of the 1982 revision was to provide service of satisfactory signal strength to the whole country, while providing as many program choices to as many listeners as possible and providing service of local origin to as many communities as possible. To these ends, the Commission set forth the following as priorities: (1) first full-time aural service; (2) second full-time aural service; (3) first local service and; (4) other public interest matters (priorities 2 and 3 were given co-equal weight). Thus, the allotment of a first full-time local aural transmission service to Belle Haven would satisfy the core objectives of Section 307(b), and also meets the Commission's third allotment priority.

In the event that this petition requesting the allotment of Channel 291B at Belle Haven, Virginia, and channel 241B at Exmore, Virginia, is granted, Petitioners will file modification applications to relocate station WEXM(FM) to Belle Haven, Virginia, and station WROX-FM to Exmore, Virginia, and if their respective modification applications are granted, will promptly file

license applications to cover the modified facilities and begin broadcast transmissions.

WHEREFORE, in light of the foregoing, Commonwealth Broadcasting, LLC, and Sinclair Telecable, Inc. d/b/a Sinclair Communications respectfully request that the Commission GRANT this petition for rulemaking, AMEND the FM Table of Allotment, and relocate Channel 291B from Exmore, Virginia to Belle Haven, Virginia, as that community's first full-time local aural transmission service, and relocate Channel 241B from Cape Charles, Virginia, to Exmore, Virginia, as a replacement service.

Respectfully submitted,
COMMONWEALTH BROADCASTING, LLC
SINCLAIR TELECABLE, INC.
D/B/A SINCLAIR COMMUNICATIONS

By: 4

Howard M. Weiss Alison J. Shapiro

Its Counsel

Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, P.L.C. 1300 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Arlington, Virginia 22209 (703)812-0400

August 29, 2001

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Carla Whitlock, a secretary in the law firm of Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, do hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing *Petition for Rulemaking* was sent this 29th day of August 2001, via hand delivery and United States First Class Mail, postage prepaid, on the following:

Mr. John A. Karousos\*
Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.
Room 2-A266
Washington, D.C. 20554

\*By Hand

### ORIGINAL FOR FILING WITH FCC

#### Prepared by:

#### Graham Brock, Inc.

Broadcast Technical Consultants

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### GRAHAM BROCK, INC.

BROADCAST TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS

PETITION FOR RULE MAKING
COMMONWEALTH BROADCASTING, LLC
SINCLAIR TELECABLE, INC. dba
SINCLAIR COMMUNICATIONS
RE-ALLOT CHANNEL 291B
BELLE HAVEN, VIRGINIA
RE-ALLOT CHANNEL 241B
EXMORE, VIRGINIA
August 2001

**TECHNICAL EXHIBIT** 

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#### TECHNICAL STATEMENT

1. This technical statement and attached exhibits have been prepared on behalf of Commonwealth Broadcasting, LLC ("Commonwealth"), licensee of WEXM, Channel 291A, Exmore, Virginia, and Sinclair Telecable, Inc., dba Sinclair Communications ("Sinclair"), licensee of WROX-FM, Channel 241B, Cape Charles, Virginia¹, hereinafter referred to as joint petitioners ("petitioners"). Petitioners herein request that Channel 291A² be re-allotted and upgraded to Channel 291B at Belle Haven, Virginia, as that community's first locally licensable FM service. Further, in order to not remove the only local FM service to Exmore, Virginia. Petitioners also request that Channel 241B be re-allotted from Cape Charles to Exmore, Virginia.

#### **DISCUSSION**

2. The community of Belle Haven, Virginia, is located in southern Accomack County, Virginia, with a population of 521 persons.<sup>3</sup> Belle Haven has a Mayor with a Town Council as government. Belle Haven has a volunteer Fire Department, its own post office and numerous businesses.

<sup>1)</sup> Principals of Commonwealth are also principals of Sinclair.

There is a pending one-step application to upgrade WEXM to Channel 291B at Exmore, Virginia (BMPH-20010502AAR). This instant Petition for Rule Making is to be considered a separate request.

<sup>2)</sup> Source: www.census.gov/populations/estimates/metro-city/placebyco/SC99T8\_va.txt.

- 3. Channel 291B can be allotted to Belle Haven, Virginia, with a site restriction of 7.9 kilometers southwest of the community to avoid shortspacing WKHW, Channel 293A, Pocomoke City, Maryland, and allow the use of the present WEXM transmitter site. The reference site for the proposed allotment of Channel 291B at Belle Haven, Virginia, is North Latitude 37° 31′ 46″ and West Longitude 75° 54′ 44″. Attached as Exhibit #1 is a map depicting the area to locate Channel 291B at Belle Haven, Virginia. Further, attached as Exhibit #2 is a \$73.207 spacing study demonstrating that Channel 291B meets the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements to all licensed, applied for or proposed facilities, with the exception of the present Channel 291 allotment at Exmore, Virginia. From the proposed reference site, a theoretical 3.16 mV/m (70 dBu) signal will be provided over Belle Haven.
- 4. Since the proposed re-allotment of Channel 291B from Exmore to Belle Haven, Virginia, would remove the only locally licensed FM channel from the community, Petitioners propose the re-allotment of Channel 241B from Cape Charles to Exmore, Virginia. Channel 241B can be allotted to Exmore, Virginia, but the present WROX-FM site cannot be used as a reference site for the re-allotment, due to the distance from the community of Exmore. The present WROX-FM site is located 34.0 kilometers from the center of Exmore and, as such, the 3.16 mV/m contour of a maximum Class B facility would not encompass the community. Therefore, the proposed allocation site is closer to Exmore.
- 5. It is further noted that the presently authorized site for Channel 241B at Cape Charles, Virginia, does not meet the minimum distance separation requirements to WVKL, Channel 239B, Norfolk, Virginia. Both Channel 241B at Cape Charles, Virginia, and Channel 239B at

Norfolk were allotted prior to March 1, 1984. As can be seen on Exhibit #3, from the presently authorized WROX-FM site, Channel 241B is shortspaced to WVKL by 10.01 kilometers, based on \$73.207 of the Commission's rules. This shortage was created as a result in the change of the minimum distance separation requirements for Class B second and third adjacent channels adopted as part of MM Docket #80-90. Prior to the implementation of these rules, second adjacent Class B stations were separated by 64.0 kilometers (40.0 miles). As authorized, WROX-FM is located 63.99 kilometers from WVKL, in compliance with the previously authorized distance. As such, Channel 241B at Cape Charles has a grandfathered shortspace to Channel 239B at Norfolk, Virginia.

6. The proposed reference site for Channel 241B at Exmore, is 4.86 kilometers from the present WROX-FM site, even further removed from WVKL, at geographic coordinates North Latitude 37° 18' 02" and West Longitude 75° 59' 05". This represents a site restriction of 30.5 kilometers from the community of Exmore, to avoid shortspacing WOSC, Channel 240B1, Bethany Beach, Maryland, and a new construction permit for Channel 243A at Chincoteague, Virginia. From the proposed reference site, as detailed on Exhibit #4, the allocation site for Channel 241B at Exmore is located 68.81 kilometers from WVKL. Thus, the shortspacing to WVKL is reduced. Exhibit #5 is a map demonstrating where Channel 241B can be located to provide service to Exmore, Virginia. From the proposed reference site, a 3.16 mV/m contour will be delivered to Exmore, Virginia.

The spacing between the proposed reference site and WVKL is greater than the grandfathered 64.0 kilometer distance.

<sup>4)</sup> Based on maintaining a distance of 64.0 kilometers to WVKL and complying with §73.207 rules to all other FM facilities.

Based on uniform terrain. It is the intention of Sinclair to specify the existing WROX-FM site to provide service to Exmore following the conclusion of this proceeding. The present WROX-FM facilities provide the requisite 70 dBu signal to Exmore, Virginia, utilizing a supplemental city grade analysis (point-to-point or Longley-Rice), that will be demonstrated in an application. As such, no actual change in the WROX-FM coverage or channel spacing will occur.

7. Therefore, Petitioners herein request the following changes in §73.202 of the Commission's rules.

#### Belle Haven, Virginia

Present

Proposed

None

291B

#### Exmore, Virginia

Present 291A<sup>7</sup>

Proposed

241B

#### Cape Charles, Virginia

Present 241B

Proposed<sup>8</sup>

None

#### **PUBLIC INTEREST**

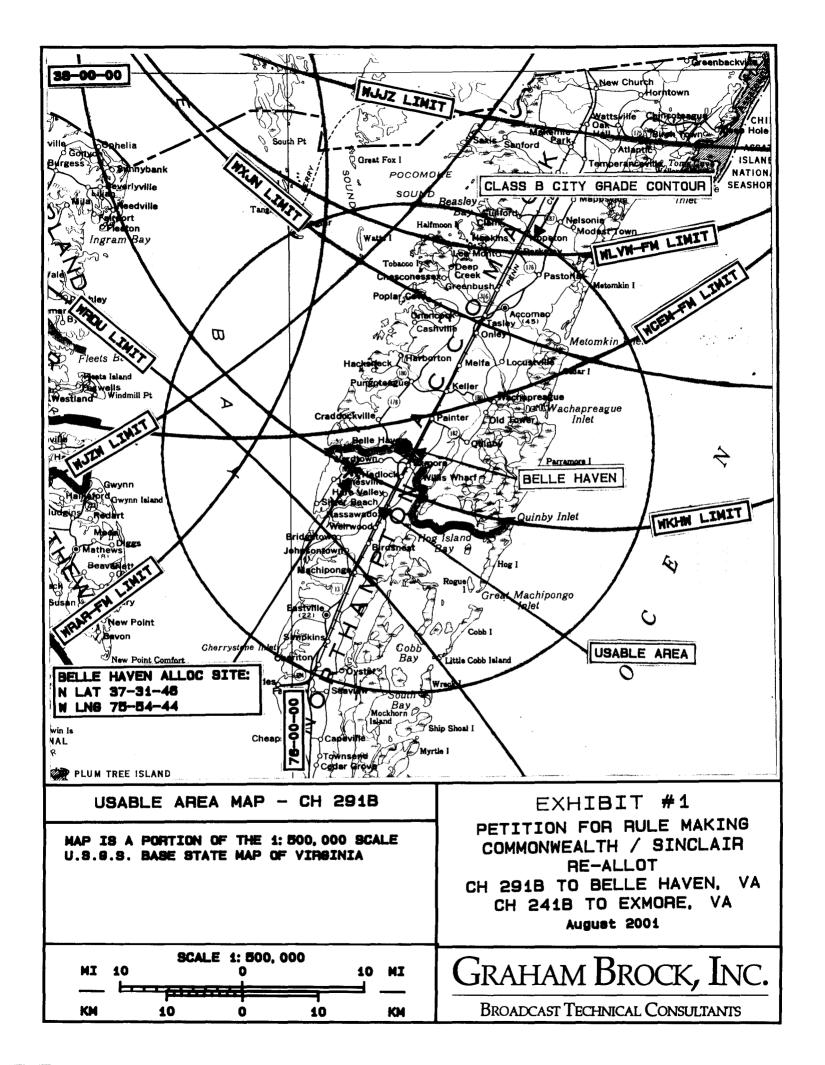
8. The allotment of Channel 291B to Belle Haven, Virginia, will provide that community with its first locally licensable FM channel, without depriving Exmore of its only local service (based on the re-allotment of Channel 241B from Cape Charles to Exmore). A re-allotted Channel 291B at Belle Haven, Virginia, will provide 60 dBu (1.0 mV/m) service to 72,545 persons in 8,560.0 square kilometers. This reflects an increase of 60,038 persons in 7,488.3 square kilometers over the present licensed WEXM facilities at Exmore.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7)</sup> See Footnote I supra.

<sup>7)</sup> Non-commercial FM station WAZP, Channel 214B1 will remain licensed to Cape Charles, Virginia, and places a 70 dBu contour over the community.

<sup>8)</sup> The present WEXM licensed facility provides service to 12,507 persons in 1,072.0 square kilometers.

- 9. Once Channel 291B is allotted to Belle Haven, Virginia, and Channel 241B is allotted to Exmore, Virginia, Petitioners will submit the required minor change applications for construction permit (FCC Form 301) seeking authority to make the changes to the facilities of WEXM and WROX-FM, respectively.
- 10. The foregoing technical statement was prepared on behalf of Commonwealth Broadcasting, LLC, and Sinclair Telecable, Inc., dba Sinclair Communications by Graham Brock, Inc., Technical Consultants. All data related to FM facilities was extracted from the CDBS database, all population data from the PL 94-171 files (2000 Census). We assume no liability for errors or omissions in those databases, which may be adverse to the requests contained herein.



#### EXHIBIT #2

ALLOCATION STUDY FOR BELLE HAVEN, VIRGINIA USING PROPOSED ALLOCATION SITE AS REFERENCE

REFERENCE 37 31 46 N 75 54 44 W		Current	CLASS B rules space 291 -106.	cings		DATA SEARCH	08-07-01
CALL C	CH# CITY LAT LNG		STATE PWR	BEAR' HT	D-KM D-Mi	R-KM R-Mi	MARGIN (KM)
WEXM.A 29	91B Exmore 37 31 46 75 ommonwealth B		VA	0.0	0.00	241.0	-241.00
ALLO 29 VAC 3	91B Exmore 37 31 46 75	54 44	VA 0.000 kw	0.0 0M	0.00	241.0 149.8	-241.00
WEXM 29 LIC C 3 Com	PlA Exmore 17 31 46 75 nmonwealth Br	54 44 oadcast:	VA 1.500 kW ing, LLC	0.0 81M BLH	0.00 0.0 -2001042	178.0 110.6 20AAT	-178.00
LIC CN 3	3A Pocomoke 8 04 37 75 eat Scott Br	32 19	1.800 kW	104M	43.0	42.9	0.10
LICDCN 3	2A Cambridg 8 35 02 76 s Broadcasti	04 56	6.000 kW	99M	73.3	70.2	4.99
CP DCX 3	2A Cambridg 8 35 03 76 s Broadcasti	04 54	6.000 kW	99M	118.01 73.3 -2001060	70.2	5.01
LIC CN 3	1C Wilson 5 45 36 78 pstar TX Lim	11 04 1	NC 100.000 kW	226.5 411M	282.57 175.6	274.0 170.3	8.57
WRARFM 28 LIC CN 3 Ray	8A Tappahan 7 52 27 76 ppahannock C	nock 43 37 ommunica	VA 6.000 kW ations	298.4 100M BLH	81.40 50.6 -1991081	69.0 42.9 .2KA	12.40
	OB Woodbrid 8 53 30 77 AL, Inc.	ge 07 55	VA 40.000 kW	325.2 138M BPH-	185.13 115.1 1996111	169.0 105.0 4IB	16.13
LICDEN 38	0B Woodbride 8 52 28 77 3 AL, Inc.	ge 13 24	VA 28.000 kW	198M	188.35 117.1 1985102	105.0	19.35
WXJN 290 LIC CN 38 Del	CA Lewes 8 38 36 75 1 lmarva Broado	l3 00 Casting	6.000 kW	100M	137.88 85.7 1992061	70.2	

#### EXHIBIT #3

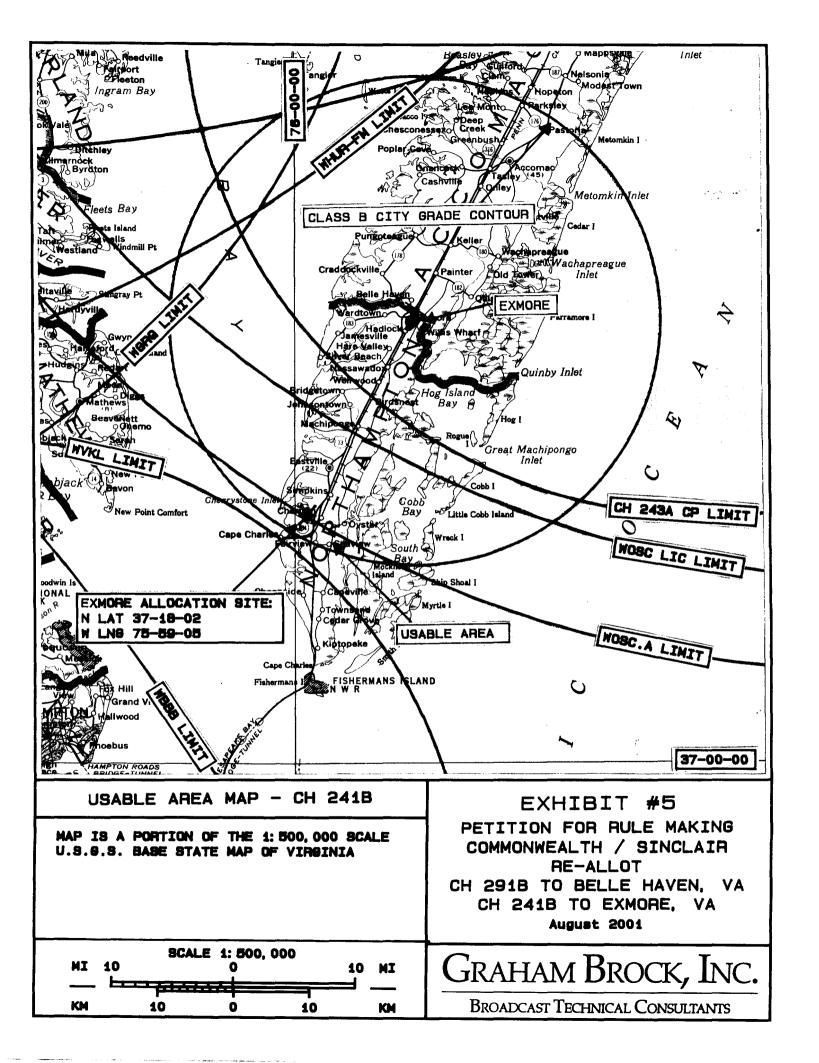
PRESENT CLEARANCE STUDY FOR WROX-FM CAPE CHARLES, VIRGINIA USING PRESENT WROX-FM SITE AS REFERENCE

REFERENCE 37 15 47 N 76 00 47 W	CLASS B Current rules spa CHANNEL 241 - 96.	cings 1 MHz	DISPLA DATA SEARCH	AY DATES 08-03-01 08-07-01
CALL CH# CITY TYPE LAT LN	STATE IG PWR	BEAR' D-KM HT D-Mi	R-KM R-Mi	MARGIN (KM)
WROXFM 241B Cape Ch LIC C 37 15 47 76 Sinclair Telec	arles VA 00 47 23.000 kW	0.0 0.00 220M 0.0	241.0 · 149.8	
WVKL 239B Norfolk LIC CN 36 48 56 76 Entercom Norf	VA 28 00 40.000 kW olk License, LLC	219.1 63.99 268M 39.8 BMLH-19920	74.0 46.0 706KA	-10.01
WOSC.A 240B1 Bethany APP CX 38 25 20 75 Capstar TX Li	Beach DE 08 23 10.300 kW mited Partnership			4.87
WOSC 240B1 Bethany LIC CN 38 31 45 75 Capstar TX Li	Beach DE 04 50 19.000 kW mited Partnership	115M 101.1	90.1	17.71
970911 243A Chincot CP CN 37 55 14 75 Sebago Broadc	eague VA 23 06 2.800 kW asting	145M 57.0	42.9	22.66
WGRQ 240A Colonia LIC CN 38 13 45 77 Telemedia Bro	l Beach VA 07 10 2.400 kW adcasting, Inc.	160M 90.1	70.2	31.94
WKJX 244A Elizabe LIC CN 36 18 26 76 East Carolina	th City NC 16 03 3.000 kW Radio, Inc.	192.1 108.47 86M 67.4 BLH-1984082	69.0 42.9 29CS	39.47
WHURFM 242B Washing LIC CN 38 57 01 77 The Howard Un	ton DC 04 47 24.000 kW iversity	204M 130.1	169.0 105.0	40.34
WAFX 295C Suffolk LIC CN 36 48 16 76 Tidewater Comr	45 17 100.000 kW munications, Inc.	300M 51.8 BLH-1989092	21.8	48.34

#### **EXHIBIT #4**

ALLOCATION STUDY FOR CHANNEL 241B EXMORE, VIRGINIA USING PROPOSED ALLOCATION SITE AS REFERENCE

REFERENC 37 18 02 75 59 05		CLAS Current rule CHANNEL 241	SS B es spac - 96.1	cings 1 MHz -	<b></b>	DISPLA DATA SEARCH	AY DATES 08-03-01 08-07-01
CALL TYPE	CH# CITY LAT LN	G	STATE PWR	BEAR ' HT	D-KM D-Mi	R-KM R-Mi	MARGIN (KM)
WROXE	M 241B Cape Ch 37 15 47 76 Sinclair Tele	arles 00 47 23.0	VA 000 kW	211.0 220M	4.86 3.0 1	241.0 ·	
FIC (	239B Norfolk N 36 48 56 76 Entercom Norf						-5.19
WOSC.	A 240B1 Bethany X 38 25 20 75 Capstar TX Li	08 23 10.3	00 kW	143M	90.1	90.1	0.01
	240B1 Bethany N 38 31 45 75 Capstar TX Li	04 50 19.0	00 kW	115M	98.1	90.1	12.85
97091 CP C	1 243A Chincot N 37 55 14 75 Sebago Broadc	eague 23 06 2.8 asting	VA 00 kW	37.3 145M BPH	86.83 54.0 -1997091	69.0 42.9 1NE	17.83
	240A Colonia N 38 13 45 77 Telemedia Bro	07 10 2.4	00 kW	160M	89.3	70.2	30.60
WHURF LIC C	M 242B Washing N 38 57 01 77 The Howard Un	04 47 24.0	00 kW	204M	128.5	169.0 105.0	37.76
LIC C	244A Elizabet N 36 18 26 76 East Carolina	16 03 3.0 Radio, Inc.	00 kW	86M BLH-	70.3 1984082	42.9 9CS	



#### AFFIDAVIT AND QUALIFICATIONS OF CONSULTANT

State of Georgia	)
St. Simons Island	) ss.
County of Glynn	j

**JEFFERSON G. BROCK**, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is an officer of Graham Brock, Inc. Graham Brock has been engaged by Commonwealth Broadcasting, LLC, and Sinclair Telecable, Inc., dba Sinclair Communications, licensees of Radio Station WEXM and WROX, respectively, to prepare the attached Technical Exhibit.

His qualifications are a matter of record before the Federal Communications Commission. He has been active in Broadcast Engineering since 1979.

The attached report was either prepared by him or under his direction and all material and exhibits attached hereto are believed to be true and correct.

This the 7th day of August, 2001.

Jefferson G. Brock

Af**f**iant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 7th day of August. 2001.

Notary Public, State of Georgia My Commission Expires: April 20, 2002